B1 (Official Form 1 (Case 15-26749 Doc 1	Filed 08/05/15		05/15 13:49:28	Desc Main	
HESTER - CARTMAN, Charles		Page 1 of 10		NTARY PETITION	
Name of Debtor (if individual, enter Last, Pirst, Middle):	DEXTER	Name of Joint Deb	tor (Spouse) (Last, First, M	Middle):	
All Other Names used by the Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):		All Other Names us	sed by the Joint Debtor in naiden, and trade names):	the last 8 years	
(mentale marree, marter, and dade manes).		(include married, ir	laiden, and trade names):		
Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITI (if more than one, state all):	N)/Complete EIN			xpayer I.D. (ITIN)/Complete I	EIN
Street Address of Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State):		(if more than one, state all):			
Street Address of Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State):  Chiengo III 60628  Street Address of Joint Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State):					
11526 S. Fooleston AVE	ZIP CODE (1) 1)S			ZIP CODE	<del></del>
County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business:	VANORU	County of Residence	c or of the Principal Place		<u>L</u>
Mailing Address of Debtor (if different from street address):		Mailing Address of	Joint Debtor (if different	from street address):	
Location of Principal Assets of Business Debtor (if different	ZIP CODE			ZIP CODE	
	·			ZIP CODE	
Type of Debtor (Form of Organization) (Check one box.)	Nature of (Check one box.)	Business		nkruptcy Code Under Which is Filed (Check one box.)	l
Individual (includes Joint Debtors)	Health Care Bus	iness al Estate as defined in	Chapter 7 Chapter 9	Chapter 15 Petition f	
See Exhibit D on page 2 of this form.	11 U.S.C. § 1010		Chapter 11 Chapter 12	Recognition of a Form	
Corporation (includes LLC and LLP) Partnership Other (If debtor is not one of the above entities, check	Stockbroker Commodity Brol	leave	Chapter 13	Chapter 15 Petition f Recognition of a For	reign
this box and state type of entity below.)	Clearing Bank Other	KÇI		Nonmain Proceeding	,
Chapter 15 Debtors	Tax-Exem (Check box, i			ature of Debts Check one box.)	<del></del>
Country of debtor's center of main interests:		xempt organization	Debts are primarily debts, defined in 1	consumer 🔲 Debts are	
Each country in which a foreign proceeding by, regarding, or against debtor is pending:	under title 26 of t	he United States	§ 101(8) as "incurr individual primaril	ed by an business de	ebts.
			personal, family, o	ı'	
Filing Fee (Check one box.)  Chapter 11 Debtors Check one box:					
Full Filing Fee attached.		Debtor is a sm		ned in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51	
Filing Fee to be paid in installments (applicable to individed signed application for the court's consideration certifying	iduals only). Must attach g that the debtor is	Check if:		aa (	۵,
unable to pay fee except in installments. Rule 1006(b).	See Official Form 3A.			ated debts (excluding debts ov 0,925 (amount subject to adjus	
Filing Fee waiver requested (applicable to chapter 7 indi- attach signed application for the court's consideration.			l every three years thereas		
			g filed with this petition.		
		Acceptances of of creditors, in	f the plan were solicited p accordance with 11 U.S.	repetition from one or more el C. § 1126(b).	lasses
Statistical/Administrative Information				THIS SPACE IS COURT USE O	
Debtor estimates that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors.  Debtor estimates that, after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses paid, there will be no funds available for distribution to unsecured creditors.					
Estimated Number of Creditors			5000	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IL  AUG 05 2015  REY P. ALLSTEADT  OVER 10 TO THE AUG  MAGE 10 TO	
1 <sup>4</sup> -49 50-99 100-199 200-999 1,000- 5,000		0,001- 25,001- 5,000 50,000	50,001- 100,000	Over P. AUG	3
Estimated Assets				V DISTIF	land.
\$0 to \$50,001 to \$100,001 to \$500,001 \$1,000 \$50,000 \$100,000 \$500,000 to \$1 to \$10	3,001 \$10,000,001 \$	50,000,001 \$100,000 5 \$100 6 \$500	0,001 \$500,000,001	More than	
million million		nillion million	co di cunton	More than 2015	Ħ
\$0 to \$50,001 to \$100,001 to \$500,001 \$1,000	2 100 000 212 100 0		2.001 \$500.000.001	CLE ILLINOIS	7
\$50,000 \$100,000 \$500,000 to \$1 to \$10 million million	to \$50 to	50,000,001 \$100,000 5 \$100 to \$500 nillion million	0,001 \$500,000,001 to \$1 billion	More Man S I bi Pron	

B1 (Official Form Voluntary Peti	n 1) Case 15-26749 Doc 1 Filed 08/05/15	Entered 08/05/15 13:49:28	Desc Main Page 2
	t be completed and filed in every case.)		
Location	All Prior Bankruptcy Cases Filed Within Last 8	Years (If more than two, attach additional shee     Case Number:	t.) Date Filed:
Where Filed:			
Location Where Filed:		Case Number:	Date Filed:
Name of Debtor	Pending Bankruptcy Case Filed by any Spouse, Partner, or Af	ffiliate of this Debtor (If more than one, attach a Case Number:	additional sheet.)  Date Filed;
District:			
District.		Relationship:	Judge:
10Q) with the S of the Securities	Exhibit A  ed if debtor is required to file periodic reports (e.g., forms 10K and Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) s Exchange Act of 1934 and is requesting relief under chapter 11.)  a is attached and made a part of this petition.	Exhibit  (To be completed if debte whose debts are primarily  I, the attorney for the petitioner named in the informed the petitioner that [he or she] may p of title 11, United States Code, and have exp such chapter. I further certify that I have delived by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b).	or is an individual consumer debts.)  foregoing petition, declare that I have broceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 lained the relief available under each vered to the debtor the notice required
		Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s) (	Date)
	own or have possession of any property that poses or is alleged to pose Exhibit C is attached and made a part of this petition.	a threat of imminent and identifiable harm to pul	blic health or safety?
If this is a joint p	completed and signed by the debtor, is attached and made a part of this petition:  , also completed and signed by the joint debtor, is attached and made a p		
X	Information Regarding (Check any app Debtor has been domiciled or has had a residence, principal place preceding the date of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 day	olicable box.) of business, or principal assets in this District:	for 180 days immediately
	There is a bankruptcy case concerning debtor's affiliate, general parts	ner, or partnership pending in this District.	
	Debtor is a debtor in a foreign proceeding and has its principal place no principal place of business or assets in the United States but is a District, or the interests of the parties will be served in regard to the r	c of business or principal assets in the United Strategy and defendant in an action or proceeding [in a fed	ates in this District, or has cral or state court] in this
	Certification by a Debtor Who Resides (Check all appli		
	Landlord has a judgment against the debtor for possession of debto	or's residence. (If box checked, complete the fo	llowing.)
		(Name of landlord that obtained judgment)	
		(Address of landlord)	TO THE STATE OF TH
	Debtor claims that under applicable nonbankruptcy law, there are entire monetary default that gave rise to the judgment for possession	circumstances under which the debtor would be on, after the judgment for possession was entered	permitted to cure the d, and
	Debtor has included with this petition the deposit with the court of of the petition.	any rent that would become due during the 30-c	lay period after the filing
	Debtor certifies that he/she has served the Landlord with this certifies	fication. (11 U.S.C. § 362(1)).	

B1 (Official Form 1) Case 15-26749 Doc 1 Filed 08/05/15	Entered 08/05/15 13:49:28 Desc Main Page 3
Voluntary Petition Document	Rage But 10
(This page must be completed and filed in every case.)	MARIES DEXTO-CALTONIAN - HESTER
	atures
Signature(s) of Debtor(s) (Individual/Joint)	Signature of a Foreign Representative
I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct.  [If petitioner is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts and has chosen to file under chapter 7] I am aware that I may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12 or 13 of title 11, United States Code, understand the relief available under each such chapter, and choose to proceed under chapter 7.  [If no attorney represents me and no bankruptcy petition preparer signs the petition] I have obtained and read the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b).  I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.  X    Chapter Dextor Cartman - Histor Signature of Debtor	I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, that I am the foreign representative of a debtor in a foreign proceeding, and that I am authorized to file this petition.  (Check only one box.)  I request relief in accordance with chapter 15 of title 11, United States Code. Certified copies of the documents required by 11 U.S.C. § 1515 are attached.  Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1511, I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11 specified in this petition. A certified copy of the order granting recognition of the foreign main proceeding is attached.  X  (Signature of Foreign Representative)  Date
Date Date	Date
Signature of Attorney*	Signature of Non-Attorney Bankruptcy Petition Preparer
X Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)	I declare under penalty of perjury that: (1) I am a bankruptcy petition preparer as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 110; (2) I prepared this document for compensation and have
Printed Name of Attorney for Debtor(s)  Firm Name  Address	provided the debtor with a copy of this document and the notices and information required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.
Firm Name	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is
Firm Name  Address  Telephone Number	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.
Firm Name Address	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.
Firm Name  Address  Telephone Number  Date  *In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.  Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer  Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social-Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or
Firm Name  Address  Telephone Number  Date  *In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.  Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)  I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.  Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer  Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social-Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)  Address
Address  Telephone Number  Date  *In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.  Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)  I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.  Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer  Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social-Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)  Address
Firm Name  Address  Telephone Number  Date  *In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.  Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)  I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.  The debtor requests the relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.  Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer  Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social-Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)  Address  X  Signature
Firm Name  Address  Telephone Number  Date  *In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.  Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)  I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.  The debtor requests the relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.  Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer  Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social-Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)  Address
Firm Name  Address  Telephone Number  Date  *In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.  Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)  I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.  The debtor requests the relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.	required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.  Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer  Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social-Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)  Address  X  Signature

individual.

Date

in preparing this document unless the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an

If more than one person prepared this document, attach additional sheets conforming

A bankruptcy petition preparer's failure to comply with the provisions of title 11 and the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure may result in fines or imprisonment or

to the appropriate official form for each person.

both. 11 U.S.C. § 110; 18 U.S.C. § 156.

B 1D (Official Form 1, Exhibit D) (12/09)

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

In reCharles Dexter Contagn-HEGER	Case No
Debtor	(if known)

# EXHIBIT D - INDIVIDUAL DEBTOR'S STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH CREDIT COUNSELING REQUIREMENT

Warning: You must be able to check truthfully one of the five statements regarding credit counseling listed below. If you cannot do so, you are not eligible to file a bankruptcy case, and the court can dismiss any case you do file. If that happens, you will lose whatever filing fee you paid, and your creditors will be able to resume collection activities against you. If your case is dismissed and you file another bankruptcy case later, you may be required to pay a second filing fee and you may have to take extra steps to stop creditors' collection activities.

Every individual debtor must file this Exhibit D. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and file a separate Exhibit D. Check one of the five statements below and attach any documents as directed.

- ☐ 1. Within the 180 days **before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, and I have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. Attach a copy of the certificate and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency.
- 2. Within the 180 days **before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, but I do not have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. You must file a copy of a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to you and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency no later than 14 days after your bankruptcy case is filed.

B 1D (Official Form 1, Exh. D) (12/09) - Cont.

Page 2

3. I certify that I requested credit counseling services from an approved agency but was unable to obtain the services during the seven days from the time I made my request, and the following exigent circumstances merit a temporary waiver of the credit counseling requirement so I can file my bankruptcy case now. [Summarize exigent circumstances here.] Why I have not bone it yet Because Did not have issue to a Computer

If your certification is satisfactory to the court, you must still obtain the credit counseling briefing within the first 30 days after you file your bankruptcy petition and promptly file a certificate from the agency that provided the counseling, together with a copy of any debt management plan developed through the agency. Failure to fulfill these requirements may result in dismissal of your case. Any extension of the 30-day deadline can be granted only for cause and is limited to a maximum of 15 days. Your case may also be dismissed if the court is not satisfied with your reasons for filing your bankruptcy case without first receiving a credit counseling briefing.

☐ 4. I am not required to receive a credit counseling briefing because of: [Check the applicable statement.] [Must be accompanied by a motion for determination by the court.]
☐ Incapacity. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as impaired by reason of mental
illness or mental deficiency so as to be incapable of realizing and making rational
decisions with respect to financial responsibilities.);
☐ Disability. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as physically impaired to the
extent of being unable, after reasonable effort, to participate in a credit counseling
briefing in person, by telephone, or through the Internet.);
☐ Active military duty in a military combat zone.
☐ 5. The United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator has determined that the credit counseling requirement of 11 U.S.C. § 109(h) does not apply in this district.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct.

Signature of Debtor: Charles DEXTER CARTMAN-HESTER

Date: Avg 5, 2015

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

In Re: Charles DEXTER CArt	rman - Hester	
Debtor (s)	) Case No. ) Chapter	7
	) )	ŧ

### List of Creditors

14171 Carole Drive	3015 S. PARKET RD
Dloomington, 11 61705	StE 400 AUTORA, CO 80201-1649
ACCLAIM RESOURCE PAYTHE	5 NEINET STUDENT LOAN
2006 E 95th	Po 36008
Chicago III LOGO17	KNOX Nille TA 37936
City of Chicago	Ed Financial SErvices
5155 FINANCIAL WAY MASON, OH 45040	Att:
MASON, OH 45040	PO 140310 Toledo, OH 43414
Check'N GO	United Collect Bureau
DAILAS, TX 75200	13355 NOEL RD
DAILAS, TX 75200	SHE 2100, DAILAS, TX 75240
PLS LOAN StorE	Credit Protection Assoc
18121 Marsh LN	PO Box 10497
DAMAS TX 75287	Greenville, SC 29603
Woodforest NATIONAL BANK	LVNV Funding LLC

Debtor/Joint Debtor's Name: 

Description Page 7 of 10

Description Descriptio 205 W 4th St CINCINNATION 45202 US BANKRMS CC Lansing, Michigan 48922 Michigan Department of Treasury

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## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

In re Charles DEXTER CARTMAN-HESTER Debtor	Case No.			
Deotor	Chapter 7			
CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE TO CONSUMER DEBTOR(S) UNDER § 342(b) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE				
	eyl Bankruptcy Petition Preparer the debtor's petition, hereby certify that I delivered to the debtor the			
Printed name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer Address:	Social Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person, or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)			
Signature of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer or officer, principal, responsible person, or partner whose Social Security number is provided above.				
	on of the Debtor read the attached notice, as required by § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy			
Charles Dexten Cartman - HESTER Printed Name(s) of Debtor(s)	X Charles DEXFER Carlman-Hester Aug 5, 2015 Signature of Debtor Date			
Case No. (if known)	X			

Instructions: Attach a copy of Form B 201A, Notice to Consumer Debtor(s) Under § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Use this form to certify that the debtor has received the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b) **only** if the certification has **NOT** been made on the Voluntary Petition, Official Form B1. Exhibit B on page 2 of Form B1 contains a certification by the debtor's attorney that the attorney has given the notice to the debtor. The Declarations made by debtors and bankruptcy petition preparers on page 3 of Form B1 also include this certification.

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

# NOTICE TO CONSUMER DEBTOR(S) UNDER §342(b) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

In accordance with § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, this notice to individuals with primarily consumer debts: (1) Describes briefly the services available from credit counseling services; (2) Describes briefly the purposes, benefits and costs of the four types of bankruptcy proceedings you may commence; and (3) Informs you about bankruptcy crimes and notifies you that the Attorney General may examine all information you supply in connection with a bankruptcy case.

You are cautioned that bankruptcy law is complicated and not easily described. Thus, you may wish to seek the advice of an attorney to learn of your rights and responsibilities should you decide to file a petition. Court employees cannot give you legal advice.

Notices from the bankruptcy court are sent to the mailing address you list on your bankruptcy petition. In order to ensure that you receive information about events concerning your case, Bankruptcy Rule 4002 requires that you notify the court of any changes in your address. If you are filing a **joint case** (a single bankruptcy case for two individuals married to each other), and each spouse lists the same mailing address on the bankruptcy petition, you and your spouse will generally receive a single copy of each notice mailed from the bankruptcy court in a jointly-addressed envelope, unless you file a statement with the court requesting that each spouse receive a separate copy of all notices.

#### 1. Services Available from Credit Counseling Agencies

With limited exceptions, § 109(h) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that all individual debtors who file for bankruptcy relief on or after October 17, 2005, receive a briefing that outlines the available opportunities for credit counseling and provides assistance in performing a budget analysis. The briefing must be given within 180 days before the bankruptcy filing. The briefing may be provided individually or in a group (including briefings conducted by telephone or on the Internet) and must be provided by a nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator. The clerk of the bankruptcy court has a list that you may consult of the approved budget and credit counseling agencies. Each debtor in a joint case must complete the briefing.

In addition, after filing a bankruptcy case, an individual debtor generally must complete a financial management instructional course before he or she can receive a discharge. The clerk also has a list of approved financial management instructional courses. Each debtor in a joint case must complete the course.

## 2. The Four Chapters of the Bankruptcy Code Available to Individual Consumer Debtors

Chapter 7: Liquidation (\$245 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee, \$15 trustee surcharge: Total fee \$335)
Chapter 7 is designed for debtors in financial difficulty who do not have the ability to pay their existing debts. Debtors whose debts are primarily consumer debts are subject to a "means test" designed to determine whether the case should be permitted to proceed under chapter 7. If your income is greater than the median income for your state of residence and family size, in some cases, the United States trustee (or bankruptcy administrator), the trustee, or creditors have the right to file a motion requesting that the court dismiss your case under § 707(b) of the Code. It is up to the court to decide whether the case should be dismissed.

Under chapter 7, you may claim certain of your property as exempt under governing law. A trustee may have the right to take possession of and sell the remaining property that is not exempt and use the sale proceeds to pay your creditors.

The purpose of filing a chapter 7 case is to obtain a discharge of your existing debts. If, however, you are found to have committed certain kinds of improper conduct described in the Bankruptcy Code, the court may deny

your discharge and, if it does, the purpose for which you filed the bankruptcy petition will be defeated.

Even if you receive a general discharge, some particular debts are not discharged under the law. Therefore, you may still be responsible for most taxes and student loans; debts incurred to pay nondischargeable taxes; domestic support and property settlement obligations; most fines, penalties, forfeitures, and criminal restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; and debts for death or personal injury caused by operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft while intoxicated from alcohol or drugs. Also, if a creditor can prove that a debt arose from fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, or theft, or from a willful and malicious injury, the bankruptcy court may determine that the debt is not discharged.

# <u>Chapter 13</u>: Repayment of All or Part of the Debts of an Individual with Regular Income (\$235 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee: Total fee \$310)

Chapter 13 is designed for individuals with regular income who would like to pay all or part of their debts in installments over a period of time. You are only eligible for chapter 13 if your debts do not exceed certain dollar amounts set forth in the Bankruptcy Code.

Under chapter 13, you must file with the court a plan to repay your creditors all or part of the money that you owe them, using your future earnings. The period allowed by the court to repay your debts may be three years or five years, depending upon your income and other factors. The court must approve your plan before it can take effect.

After completing the payments under your plan, your debts are generally discharged except for domestic support obligations; most student loans; certain taxes; most criminal fines and restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; certain debts for acts that caused death or personal injury; and certain long term secured obligations.

#### **Chapter 11:** Reorganization (\$1,167 filing fee, \$550 administrative fee: Total fee \$1,717)

Chapter 11 is designed for the reorganization of a business but is also available to consumer debtors. Its provisions are quite complicated, and any decision by an individual to file a chapter 11 petition should be reviewed with an attorney.

#### Chapter 12: Family Farmer or Fisherman (\$200 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee: Total fee \$275)

Chapter 12 is designed to permit family farmers and fishermen to repay their debts over a period of time from future earnings and is similar to chapter 13. The eligibility requirements are restrictive, limiting its use to those whose income arises primarily from a family-owned farm or commercial fishing operation.

#### 3. Bankruptcy Crimes and Availability of Bankruptcy Papers to Law Enforcement Officials

A person who knowingly and fraudulently conceals assets or makes a false oath or statement under penalty of perjury, either orally or in writing, in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to a fine, imprisonment, or both. All information supplied by a debtor in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to examination by the Attorney General acting through the Office of the United States Trustee, the Office of the United States Attorney, and other components and employees of the Department of Justice.

**WARNING:** Section 521(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that you promptly file detailed information regarding your creditors, assets, liabilities, income, expenses and general financial condition. Your bankruptcy case may be dismissed if this information is not filed with the court within the time deadlines set by the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the local rules of the court. The documents and the deadlines for filing them are listed on Form B200, which is posted at <a href="http://www.uscourts.gov/bkforms/bankruptcy">http://www.uscourts.gov/bkforms/bankruptcy</a> forms.html#procedure.